

West Virginia Senate

Committee on Banking and Insurance

Minutes for March 11, 2021, 9:01 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Banking and Insurance met on March 11, 2021, 9:01 AM in Room 451-M.

Members present: Senators Azinger, Clements, Boley, Hamilton, Nelson, Rucker, Swope, Sypolt, Weld, Ihlenfeld, Romano, Woelfel

Members absent: Senators Beach and Karnes

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Senator Swope, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chair Azinger announced that he was changing the order of the agenda.

Com. Sub. For S. B. 493 - Issuing license suspensions to insurance producers and adjusters who fail to meet CE requirements.

Chair Azinger recognized counsel, Marey Casey, to explain the proposed committee substitute in lieu of having it read. Counsel explained. Senator Swope moved the language of the committee substitute. Upon voice vote the motion was adopted. Senator Clements moved that the committee substitute be reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Com. Sub. For S. B. 398 - Limiting eligibility of certain employers to participate in PEIA plans.

Chair Azinger recognized counsel, Marey Casey, to explain the proposed committee substitute in lieu of having it read. Counsel explained and answered questions from the committee. Chair Azinger noted several individuals in the committee room with interest in the bill. With leave of the committee, Chair Azinger asked those present who wanted to be first to speak to the bill and answer questions from the committee. Allan McVey, Secretary of WV Department of Administration stepped forward. Mr. McVey stated that he would defer to Ted Cheatham, Director of PEIA, who was attending via Teams. Mr. Cheatham spoke to the bill and answered multiple questions from the committee, at times in tandem with Mr. McVey.

With leave of the committee, Senator Nelson requested to hear from a representative of the hospitals, Chair Azinger recognized and swore in, Mr. Jim Kaufman, Director of WV Hospital Association. Mr. Kaufman answered spoke to their concerns with the legislation and answered questions from the committee. With leave of the committee, Chair Azinger recognized and

swore in, Mr. Dan Lauffer, President and CEO of Thomas Health. Mr. Lauffer spoke to the bill and answered questions from the committee. Mr. Lauffer answered questions at times in tandem with Mr. Kaufman. With leave of the committee, Senator Romano requested Mr. Cheatham to answer further questions from the committee, after hearing the statements of Mr. Lauffer and Mr. Kaufman. Mr. Cheatham complied with the request.

Counsel answered further clarifying questions from the committee. The Senator from Harrison offered an amendment. Discussion followed related to the amendment. Vice Chair Clements moved the amendment. Upon voice vote the motion was adopted. Vice Chair Clements moved the language of the committee substitute. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted. Vice Chair Clements moved the committee substitute, as amended, be reported with the recommendation that it do pass, but under the original double committee reference, first be referred to the committee on Finance. Upon voice vote the motion was adopted.

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On Motion of Senator Clements the committee adjourned.

Michael T. Azinger

Committee Chair

Tina L. Burs

Committee Clerk